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BOROUGH OF EAST RETFORD

ANNUAL REPORT

for the Year 1953

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

C. R. C. RAINSFORD

M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.

INCLUDING THE

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

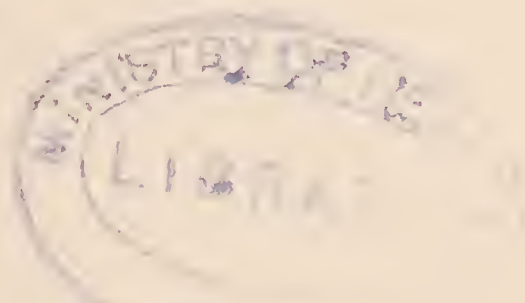
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RETFORD

WINTER AND SON, PRINTERS, GROVE STREET

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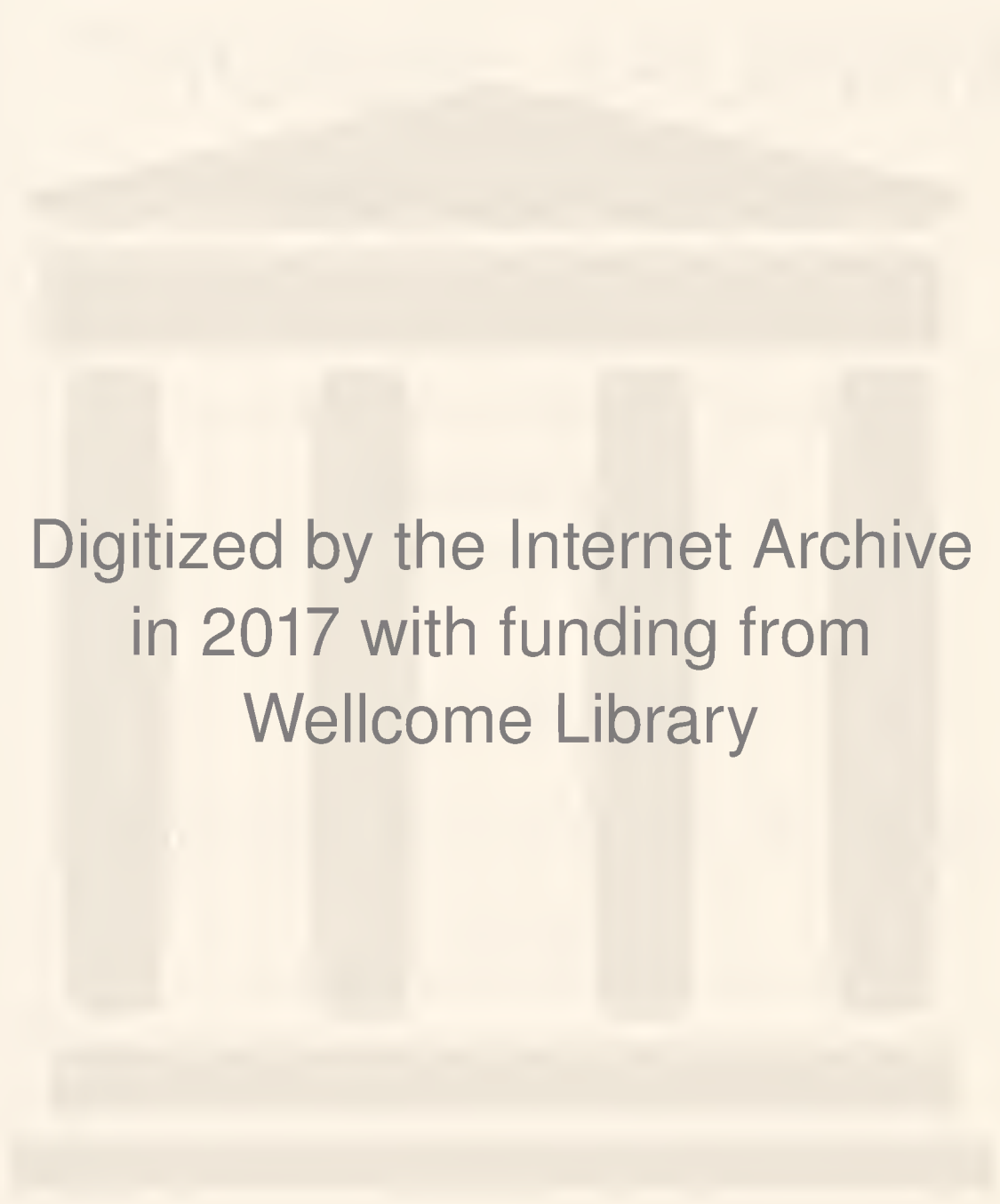
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**BOROUGH OF EAST RETFORD
HEALTH COMMITTEE**

(as at 31st December, 1953)

ALDERMAN A. WILSON (*Chairman*)

ALDERMAN J. R. WATERFIELD (*Vice-Chairman*)

ALDERMAN F. NETTLETON

ALDERMAN E. E. SUTTON

ALDERMAN L. TANNER

COUNCILLOR J. W. PEATFIELD

COUNCILLOR B. POLLARD

COUNCILLOR T. RICHMOND

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. E. WILLIAMSON

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

C. R. C. RAINSFORD, M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Sanitary Inspector :

F. R. SMITH, CERT. ROY. SAN. INST., CERT. INSP. OF MEAT

Clerks :

MISS R. EDGELEY, MISS J. ELLIS, MISS M. JOHNSON

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
CHANCERY LANE,
RETFORD.

July, 1954

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE BOROUGH OF EAST RETFORD.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my annual report on the health, vital statistics and sanitary circumstances of the Borough for the year 1953.

In the body of this report you will find details of vital statistics and social conditions, the prevalence and measures taken to control infectious diseases, and particulars of some of the services which affect this Borough but are run by the Notts. County Council and the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

Your Sanitary Inspector's report is included.

In these introductory remarks I will confine myself to underlining a few of the more important and interesting Public Health events of the year.

The general health of the Borough was satisfactory. The population increased by 240 over 1952 and is larger by 880 than in 1947.

The Birth rate was slightly down and the Death rate slightly up on last year.

There was a very high incidence of Measles throughout the whole of England and Wales in 1953 and in East Retford 561 cases were notified, the highest since 1950 when there were 573 cases.

Whooping Cough with 55 notifications was responsible for an appreciable amount of child sickness. In the very young it is a serious disease and few illnesses are more trying to the mother's patience especially if she is living in an overcrowded, sub-standard house.

There were 54 cases of Scarlet Fever, most of them of a mild type.

One case of Paralytic Poliomyelitis was notified, with one death.

The Borough remained free from Diphtheria.

Although the diagnosis, treatment and after-care of tuberculosis is primarily one of the services carried out by the County Council, the Public Health Department has a part to play, especially in the rehabilitation of persons returning from sanatoria. Every effort is made to ensure that these people are decently housed, and I have to thank the Housing Committee for its help in this matter.

The Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1953

These regulations came into force on 1st April, 1953. They replace and amplify the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1927. The most important sections deal with Food Poisoning, and under the new regulations a local authority may prevent carriers of these diseases entering employment in connection with the handling of food.

In addition, a local authority may authorise its Medical Officer of Health to issue notices in emergency without prior reference to the Public Health Committee to check the spread of these diseases. It is incumbent of the Medical Officer of Health to report the circumstances as soon as possible to his Public Health Committee.

The necessary authorisation has been given by your Council.

HOUSING

Excellent progress was made in building new Council houses, yet the number of applicants on the waiting list increased. To quote the *Medical Officer* — housing, like the Red Queen (in Alice in Wonderland) must run so fast to stay where it is.

Although a good deal of preliminary investigation has been carried out, the main problem of slum clearance has yet to be tackled.

It is impossible to estimate accurately the amount of ill health caused by poor housing, but it must be quite considerable.

I am indebted to the Housing Manager for the following facts : 159 new houses were completed during 1953, of these 144 were built by the Council. The number of applicants on the waiting list was 696, an increase of 25 over last year. Continued progress was made and for the second year in succession the number of families living in lodgings decreased and the waiting time on the list was shorter.

The increase is again accounted for by the number of families living in unfit houses applying for new ones.

I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and help, to all members of my staff for their constant efficiency and to other officers of the Corporation for their willing co-operation.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

C. R. C. RAINSFORD,

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	4,657 acres
Registrar General's Estimated Population, mid-year 1953,	16,780
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1953.....	5,130
Rateable Value, June, 1954.....	£109,483
Sum represented by penny rate at 1st April, 1954.....	£425

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

	Total	M	F
Legitimate ..	265	140	125
Illegitimate ..	6	3	3
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population.....	16.15		
Birth Rate of England and Wales per 1,000 estimated population	15.5		

STILL BIRTHS

	Total	M	F
Legitimate ..	5	3	2
Illegitimate ..	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total births.....	18.11		
Rate per 1,000 estimated population.....	0.29		
Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales.....	0.35		

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion.....	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still).....	Nil

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under one year			
	Total	M	F
Legitimate ..	9	4	5
Illegitimate ..	—	—	—
Death Rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.....			
			33.96
Death Rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			
			Nil
Death Rate of all infants per 1,000 live births.....			
			33.21
Infantile Mortality Rate of England and Wales per 1,000 live births.....			
			26.8

DEATHS

	Total	M	F
	198	105	93
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population.....			
			11.79
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population England and Wales			
			11.4

All the above rates are calculated on the estimated population given by the Registrar General.

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATHS

The deaths include those of 55 persons in institutions outside the Borough, 29 males and 26 females.

Tuberculosis, respiratory	5
Tuberculosis, other	0
Syphilitic disease	0
Diphtheria	0
Whooping Cough	0
Meningococcal Infections	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	1
Measles	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases.....	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	8

Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.....	0
Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms..	19
Leukaemia and aleukaemia	0
Diabetes.....	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	25
Coronary disease, angina.....	33
Hypertension with heart disease.....	9
Other heart diseases.....	24
Other circulatory diseases.....	11
Influenza	3
Pneumonia.....	5
Bronchitis	8
Other diseases of respiratory system.....	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	2
Gastritis and enteritis and diarrhoea.....	0
Nephritis and Nephrosis	0
Hyperplasia of prostate.....	0
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion.....	0
Congenital malformations	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases....	26
Motor vehicle accidents.....	0
All other accidents.....	5
Suicide	2
Homicide and operations of war.....	0

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS

There were 271 live births compared with 278 in 1952, this gives a birth rate of 16.15 per 1,000, which is just above that of England and Wales at 15.15.

9 Infant deaths were recorded including two from Prematurity and 3 from congenital abnormalities.

The total number of deaths was 198, an increase of 14 over 1952. The death rate works out at 11.79 per 1,000, which is almost the same as for England and Wales at 11.4 per 1,000.

Analysis of the figures shows that one death was due to Acute Poliomyelitis, and 5 from Respiratory Tuberculosis. Diseases of the respiratory system were responsible for 16, and influenza for 3, but by far the largest group were Cardio-Vascular diseases — 102 and Malignant Growths — 31.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

(a) Under the control of the Notts. County Council.

(1) Child Welfare Service

Infant Welfare Clinics are held at the Old Day Nursery, Market Square, Retford, at the following times :—

Mondays :	2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.
Thursdays :	2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.
Fridays :	2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Your Medical Officer is in attendance on Mondays and alternate Thursdays.

Attendances of infants and children under five years of age during the year amounted to 5,197.

(2) Maternity Service

Ante-natal Clinics are held at the Infant Welfare Centre each Wednesday from 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Mothers who can, and wish to be confined at home, are attended by one of the County Midwives, of whom there are three in the Borough, viz. :—

MISS K. BERRY,
2, Woodlands, Whinney Moor Lane, Retford
Telephone No. Retford 197

MRS. M. TOWNSEND,
117, Queen Street, Retford
Telephone No. Retford 583

MRS. E. CUMMING,
125, Northfield Way, Retford
Telephone No. Retford 718

In those cases that require hospital confinement because of social conditions or for medical reasons, the necessary investigation and booking is made by the County Health Department.

During 1953, 631 attendances were made by Ante-Natal mothers, and 14 by Post-Natal mothers.

(3) Home Nursing

This service is provided by the Retford and District Nursing Association, and the work is carried out on its behalf by three Queen's Nurses : name and address as follows :—

MISS JARVIS AND MISS BROWN,
16, Osberton Road, Retford.
Telephone No. Retford 467

MRS. PEARSON,
12, Victoria Road, Retford.

(4) Dental Treatment

Dental treatment is provided for pre-school children and expectant and nursing mothers by appointment at the Child Welfare Centre.

(5) Home Help Service

The office is in Chancery Lane, Retford. This most useful service provides domestic help to necessitous cases on a medical recommendation.

(6) School Medical Service

School Clinics are held at the Infant Welfare Centre, Market Square, Retford, on Mondays and Fridays from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Your Medical Officer, in his capacity as Assistant County Medical Officer, is in attendance every Monday.

Dental Clinics for school-children are held in the same building at the following times: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Total attendances at the School Clinic during the year came to 765.

(7) Ambulance Service

The main ambulance station is situated in the Retford Borough, and the vehicles comprise four ambulances, one sitter car, and a dual purpose vehicle which will carry six sitting cases or three sitting cases and one stretcher case. The Station Supervisor is Mr. G. Brookes. Office: Exchange Street, Retford. *Telephone No.* 400.

(b) Under the control of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board :—

(1) Chest Clinic

Chest Clinics are held at the Retford and District Hospital every Tuesday between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

(2) **Orthopaedic Clinic**

Orthopaedic Clinics are held at the Retford and District Hospital every Monday, Wednesday and Friday of each week from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Mr. S. A. S. Malkin, the Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon attends the clinic on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month.

(3) **Venereal Disease Clinics**

The nearest clinics are at Mansfield and Worksop.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY

East Retford is fortunate in having an excellent water supply.

There were no new works carried out during the year, the Whisker Hill pumping station, installed at the end of 1952, functioned satisfactorily.

During the year, 121 samples of water were sent for bacteriological examination, 51 from boreholes before chlorination, and 70 from various premises after chlorination.

Particulars of samples are given hereunder :—

<i>Date</i>	<i>After Chlorination</i>	<i>Before Chlorination</i>	<i>Result (Class No.)</i>
6 1 53	—	2	1
13 1 53	2	—	1
20 1 53	—	2	1
27 1 53	2	—	1
4 2 53	—	2	1
10 2 53	2	—	1
16 2 53	—	2	1
24 2 53	2	—	1
3 3 53	—	2	1
10 3 53	2	—	1
18 3 53	—	2	1
23 3 53	2	—	1
31 3 53	—	2	1
9 4 53	2	—	1
14 4 53	—	2	1
21 4 53	2	—	1
28 4 53	—	2	1
6 5 53	2	—	1
12 5 53	—	2	1

19	5	53	2	—	1	
28	5	53	—	2	1	
4	6	53	2	—	1	
10	6	53	—	2	1	
17	6	53	2	—	1	
24	6	53	—	2	1	
30	6	53	2	—	1	
8	7	53	—	2	1	
13	7	53	—	2	1	
20	7	53	2	—	1	
27	7	53	—	2	1	
29	7	53	2	—	1	
4	8	53	2	—	(1	Class 1
					(1	Class 3
10	8	53	1	2	1	
17	8	53	2	—	1	
25	8	53	—	2	1	
31	8	53	2	—	1	
8	9	53	—	2	1	
14	9	53	2	—	(1	Class 1
					(1	Class 3
22	9	53	2	2	1	
28	9	53	2	—	(1	Class 1
					(1	Class 2
6	10	53	2	2	1	
12	10	53	2	—	1	
19	10	53	—	2	1	
26	10	53	2	—	1	
3	11	53	—	2	1	
10	11	53	2	—	(1	Class 1
					(1	Class 2
16	11	53	2	—	1	
23	11	53	4	—	1	
1	12	53	—	2	1	
8	12	53	2	—	(1	Class 1
					(1	Class 2
14	12	53	3	1	(2	Class 1
					(1	Class 2
					(1	Class 3
21	12	53	5	1	(5	Class 1
					(1	Class 2
28	12	53	3	1	1	

The grading in column 4 is given in the Ministry of Health Report No. 71, 1939, "The Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplies" as follows :—

	<i>Presumptive Coliform Count per ml.</i>
Class 1—Highly Satisfactory	Less than 1
Class 2—Satisfactory	1-2
Class 3—Suspicious	3-10
Class 4—Unsatisfactory	Greater than 10

A sample of water was submitted for a full chemical analysis during 1953, the result being as follows :—

Mark
Untreated sample from borehole.

Physical Characters	
Appearance	Clear : bright
Colour	Colourless
Taste	Normal
Smell	None

	<i>Parts per million</i>
Reaction, pH Value	7.9
Free Carbon Dioxide as CO ₂	None
Ammoniacal Nitrogen as N	0.012
Albuminoid Nitrogen as N	0.040
Nitrous Nitrogen as N	None
Nitric Nitrogen as N	2.00
Hardness (calculated from Mineral Analysis) as CaCO ₃	129.0
Temporary	106.1
Permanent	22.9
Permanganate Figure (4 hours at 80 deg. F) as O	0.33
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	106.07
Total Solids dried at 180 deg. C.	170.0

Mineral Analysis	
Silica as SiO ₂	2.0
Alumina and Iron Oxide	2.0
Calcium as Ca	28.6
Magnesium as Mg.	14.0
Sodium as Na	9.12
Carbonates as CO ₃	63.6
Chlorides as Cl	15.5
Nitrates as NO ₃	8.9
Sulphates as SO ₄	13.2
Iron as Fe	0.12

Probable composition of Mineral Constituents

Silica as SiO ₂	2.00
Alumina and Iron Oxide	2.00
Calcium Carbonate	71.43
Magnesium Carbonate	29.19
Magnesium Sulphate	16.54
Magnesium Chloride	8.77
Sodium Chloride	14.79
Sodium Nitrate	12.20
	<hr/>
	156.92
	<hr/>
Calculated Hardness — Temporary	106.1
Permanent	22.9
	<hr/>
Total	129.0
	<hr/>

Refuse Disposal

Controlled tipping continued at the gravel pits of the North Notts. Gravel Co. Ltd., adjoining the Northern boundary of the Borough.

Street Cleaning

The new mechanical sweeper arrived in September, 1953, and is proving very satisfactory.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

No action was necessary under this section during the year.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Tables showing the incidence of Infectious Diseases will be found at the end of this report.

Measles was rife in the Borough in January and February, and the total cases for the year was 561. This compares with 73 cases in 1952, and 573 in 1950, which was another peak year. There were no deaths.

There were 55 cases of Whooping Cough notified, compared with 4 in 1952. There were no deaths.

Scarlet Fever cases numbered 54 against 53 for the previous year. The disease remained of a mild type and there were no deaths.

3 Cases of Food Poisoning were notified. All were investigated but in no case was the infecting organism isolated.

Diphtheria

The Borough was again free from Diphtheria. This happy state of affairs is largely due to the success of immunisation campaigns over the past years. But constant propoganda is necessary to combat a complacent attitude developing, especially amongst the young mothers who have never seen a case of Diphtheria.

During the year the following measures were undertaken to bring home to as many people as possible the importance of having their children protected :

- 1. Notices and short articles were printed in the local press.
- 2. Slides were shown in the local cinemas.
- 3. Posters were displayed on Retford buses.
- 4. Special efforts were made by the Health Visitors and the School Nurse to persuade mothers to have their children protected.

My thanks are due to the *Retford Times*, and to the Manager of the Retford cinemas for their help, and of course to the Health Visitors whose unspectacular but constant efforts mean so much.

The total number of children who received a full course of primary immunisation or reinforcing doses during the year, either from General Practitioners or at the Public Health Department sessions was 574, compared with 530 in 1952.

The details are as follows :—

Number of children who received primary immunisations :	
By Public Health Department.....	96
By General Practitioners	176
Number of children given “booster” doses :	
By Public Health Department.....	239
By General Practitioners	63

Small Pox

It is true that no case of Small Pox has occurred in this Borough for many years, but the percentage of persons vaccinated is far too low as the following figures show :

Number of persons primarily vaccinated :	
By Public Health Department.....	18
By General Practitioners	86

Number of persons re-vaccinated :

By Public Health Department.....	11
By General Practitioners	13

It is worth remembering that 28 people from the North of England contracted Small Pox in 1953, and 7 died.

Tuberculosis

13 Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year, and 5 deaths, and there were 3 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis with no death. These figures show an increase of 5 pulmonary cases and one non-pulmonary case over 1952. The following table shows the age incidence.

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pul-monary		Non-Pul-monary		Pul-monary		Non-Pul-monary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2-3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3-4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
4-5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-35	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—
45-65	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	7	6	3	—	5	—	—	—

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1953

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my report upon the work done during the year 1953.

The year was an uneventful one, but one in which some progress was made. At the end of 1953 the hope of real action in the clearance of unfit houses appeared on the horizon and, unfortunately, Retford has still a considerable proportion of "unfits" amongst our 5,000 houses.

The cost of housing repairs is still high, if not indeed higher, than in 1952, and the owner of houses let at controlled rents is still in a difficult position. In spite of this fact most repair work is done without pressure from this department.

During 1953, 89 complaints were received and investigated, and in 72 cases nuisances were discovered. 159 preliminary notices requiring the abatement of nuisances or the remedying of defects were served, and these were followed up by statutory notices in 17 cases. Police Court proceedings for the enforcement of such notices were not necessary in any case. The details of the defects remedied will be found summarised at the end of this report.

Vermin

Assistance in the eradication of insect vermin from dwelling-houses is given to all householders who request it. Owing to the modern synthetic insecticides the clearance of most household insect pests is fairly easy, but difficulty is experienced when dealing with the common black ant, which usually breeds outside and invades houses on foraging expeditions.

The number of houses treated for insect pests was :

Ants	88	Woodworm.....	12
Beetles	22	Crickets	9
Fleas	5	Bugs	1

The refuse tip was regularly dusted with insecticide for the destruction of flies and crickets.

Remedial action against flies and other larvae was undertaken at the abattoirs and other known possible breeding places, but there is no doubt that with the co-operation of the public it would be possible to very greatly reduce this pest, if all the breeding points were regularly dusted with B.H.C.

Little trouble was caused by wasps, and only 4 nests were reported for destruction during 1953.

Rodent Control

This work is undertaken by the local authority, a free service being given to all householders, a charge being made in other cases. Although much good work was done throughout the year, there is little prospect of the total eradication of these pests. Their breeding capacity is so large that rapid re-infestation can take place after the clearance of an area, and constant vigilance is necessary. We do get excellent help from the general public in the early notification of the existence of rats or mice.

The operator inspected 808 properties during the year, 161 infestations of rats and mice were discovered and in 144 cases the Corporation undertook the eradication of the rodents. The operator made 1,375 visits and picked up 274 dead carcasses of rats. The number killed would be many times greater than this, as most of the rats die in their burrows or other inaccessible places.

The poisons used are "Warfarin" and zinc phosphide, and rats found in burrows in open places are gassed with calcium cyanide dust.

I made 159 visits to premises to control the work, and no prosecutions were necessary. In one case the Public Health Committee issued a warning to the occupier of a private dwelling who failed to notify a serious infestation of rats in his garden.

Common Lodging House

There is one registered Common Lodging House in the town with accommodation for 41 persons. I made 44 visits during the year and in 3 instances notices were served requiring the abatement of contraventions. The premises are sprayed and the beds dusted with insecticide occasionally, and any inmates known to be infested with lice are cleansed. The inmates of this house are constantly changing and many of them cannot be regarded as desirable citizens. The keeper is discouraged from accommodating children, but owing to housing difficulties it is not always possible to avoid having children in the house.

FOOD INSPECTIONS

Meat

During the whole of 1953 the Ministry of Food continued to be responsible for the slaughter in Retford of all cattle, sheep and pigs intended for sale for human consumption. Owing to the fact that they slaughter in Retford Borough for a population

of 85,000 and also to the great increase in the number of pigs killed, the work throughout the whole year was particularly onerous. I had the most valuable help of the Chief and Assistant Sanitary Inspector of the Retford R.D.C. in this work, but even so it was only possible to inspect all the carcasses and organs after long hours of over-time at night or early morning.

A comparison of the numbers of animals slaughtered during the past seven years is as follows :—

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
1953	.. 3,521	1,026	10,635	3,775
1952	.. 3,907	1,043	12,509	2,821
1951	.. 4,176	1,514	8,262	1,305
1950	.. 3,956	1,483	10,017	633
1949	.. 2,802	1,370	9,987	374
1948	.. 2,738	1,333	6,938	182
1947	.. 2,896	805	8,458	91

All the carcasses and organs were inspected before removal and this entailed 1,336 visits, usually lengthy, by the inspection staff. The percentages of animals affected with tuberculosis again show a welcome reduction, but it is still very high. The incidence of this disease amongst our food animals is one of the black spots in the health service in Great Britain, and is the cause of heavy financial loss to the farmers, and to the public of the country. It is possible to entirely eradicate tuberculosis from cattle herds and our continued failure to do so is a contributory cause of human tuberculosis especially amongst children.

Percentages affected with Tuberculosis

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Cattle	25.8	30.53	29.15	31.83	28.28	23.2	22.39	20.22
Pigs	11.1	8.8	13.23	12.3	12.48	8.27	6.94	5.72
Calves	1.5	1.0	0.6	0.8	1.66	0.264	0.47	0.28

The total weight of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption was 109,121 lbs. The previous seven years were as follows :—

1952139,368 lbs.
1951142,086 lbs.
1950175,927 lbs.
1949122,156 lbs.
1948120,719 lbs.
1947126,871 lbs.
1946132,871 lbs.

All this condemned meat is stained with a green aniline dye and is sold for conversion, after sterilization, into animal foods, fats, bones and fertilizers.

Other List of Meat

	<i>Cattle including Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Killed	3521	1026	10635	3775
Inspected	3521	1026	10635	3775
All diseases except tuberculosis (whole carcasses condemned)	20	68	38	37
All diseases except tuberculosis (part carcasses condemned) ..	Accurate figures cannot be given			
Percentage affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis	Accurate figures cannot be given			
Tuberculosis only (whole carcasses condemned)	62	3	Nil	2
Tuberculosis only (part car- cases and/or organs con- demned).....	650	Nil	Nil	214
Percentage affected with Tuberculosis	20.22	0.28	Nil	5.72

Other Food Condemned

During 1953, I paid 658 visits to food shops and markets for the dual purpose of inspecting the food and the premises. I append a list of food condemned, mostly for decomposition.

Tinned foods ..1016 tins	Bottled food57
Ham 427 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Mutton34 lbs.
Pork rinds 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwts.	Pigs tongues12 lbs.
Cooked Beef1344 lbs.	Sausages74 lbs.
Jam 2 lbs.	Cheese.....15 lbs.
Cheese spread .. 4 pkts	Apricot pulp20 lbs.
Grapes 10 boxes	Prunes10 lbs.
Peaches 1 box	Pineapples58
Liquid Egg 132 lbs.	

During the year 17 notices were served requiring compliance with the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and all were complied with. There is a need for regular and frequent visits to all food premises particularly those where food is manufactured or cooked for sale and I regret that it is not possible to devote more time to this work.

Periodic visits are made as work and time permit and all the restaurants and canteens were visited in conjunction with the Medical Officer during the year. The necessity for strict hygiene, both with regard to the premises and the food handlers was discussed with the staff and proprietors, and there is evidence of a desire to comply with all suggestions or demands made by the Health Department.

No case of food poisoning attributed to food consumed in a restaurant or canteen was reported during 1953.

Bakehouses

There are 7 bakehouses in the Borough and all the premises were satisfactory at the end of the year. 24 visits were made some in conjunction with the Medical Officer. 4 Contraventions were found and all the notices were complied with immediately.

Ice Cream

There are three premises registered for manufacture in the Borough but one has ceased production. There are 41 shops registered for the sale of ice-cream, and in these cases it is a condition of registration that the ice-cream is sold wrapped as received.

Samples are taken for test by the Public Health Laboratory Service especially from the firms who manufacture in Retford, and 22 samples were taken last year.

The results of the samples submitted during the last six years are as follows :—

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Satisfactory	19	22	16	23	24	15
Unsatisfactory	7	11	13	3	1	7
	—	—	—	—	—	—
	26	33	29	29	25	22
	—	—	—	—	—	—

Milk

There is only one dairy on our register and 28 visits were made to it during the year. No contraventions were found and the premises are quite satisfactory.

Dustbins

The Corporation provide and maintain dustbins at a cost of 5/- per annum. During 1953, 184 dustbins were supplied and the scheme is working generally in a satisfactory manner.

F. R. SMITH,
Sanitary Inspector

HOUSING STATISTICS

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :

(i) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts	428
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	492
(ii) (a)	Number of houses (included under subhead (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.....	11
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	32
(iii)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.....	11
(iv)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	142

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of a formal notice :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	121
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(i)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :	
	1. by owners	Nil
	2. by local authority in default of owners ..	Nil

- (b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :
- (i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 20
 - (ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice :
 - 1. by owners 23
 - 2. by local authority in default of owners .. Nil
- (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
- (i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made..... 6
 - (ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders..... Nil
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
- (i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil
 - (ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936 :

- (a)
 - (i) Number of houses overcrowded at the end of the year 5
 - (ii) Number of families dwelling therein 12
 - (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein..... 43
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year..... 4
- (c)
 - (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 3
 - (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases.. 32
- (d) Particulars of cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.. Nil

Summary of Visits made during the year

Houses inspected, Public Health Acts	152
Houses inspected, Housing Acts	195
Complaints investigated	89
Common Lodging House	44
Nuisances investigated	173
Factories visited	18
Re infectious diseases	102
Premises re Rats and Mice	159
Interviews with Owners, etc., on site	62
Revisits to properties under Notice	338
Bakehouses	24
Visits to Knackers Yard	57
Slaughterhouses	1336
Butchers' Shops	256
Markets and other Food Shops	402
Ice Cream Premises	41
Dairies	28
Fried Fish Shops	1
Petroleum Acts	51
Shops Act	1
Caravans	49
Miscellaneous	39
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	3617
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Summary of Nuisances Abated during the year

Foul or defective drains or closets	63
Defective House Roofs and Spoutings	40
Damp or defective walls and/or plaster	20
Defective yard paving	16
Defective house floors	15
Defective house windows	19
Defective cooking ranges	16
Defective sinks	5
Houses without refuse receptacles	1
Houses overcrowded	4
Dirty or verminous houses	16
Nuisances from manure or animals	14
Defective water supplies	5
Nuisances from smoke	4
Miscellaneous nuisances	8
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	246
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**Contraventions of Order or Byelaws abated
during the year**

	<i>Found</i>	<i>Abated</i>
Food Shops and Stores.....	17	17
Knackers Yard	3	3
Bakehouses	4	4
Dairy	—	—
Factory	3	2
Common Lodging House.....	3	4
Slaughterhouses	5	5
	—	—
	35	35
	—	—

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	6	8	—	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	89	34	5	—	2
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	—	—	—	—	3
Total....		95	42	5	—	

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	4	2	2	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)— (a) Insufficient	9	1	—	—	1	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	2	2	—	1	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
Total ..	60	5	4	—	2	—	60

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE

Disease	At all Ages	under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & Over	Age unk'n
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	-
Food Poisoning	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Measles	561	23	51	79	61	72	229	11	1	3	4	-	-	27
Malaria	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	36	1	3	-	1	1	3	1	-	4	3	6	12	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	54	-	-	6	7	3	31	6	1	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	7	1	3	-	-
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-pulmonary	3	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	55	3	3	7	8	9	22	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
Totals	733	28	57	92	79	85	286	20	4	15	9	10	17	31

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH

Disease	Total notf'd	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	6	1	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	561	201	276	56	14	6	5	1	1	—	—	1	—
Malaria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	36	9	5	2	4	3	2	1	1	1	4	2	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	54	3	2	5	14	14	1	—	—	—	1	8	6
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	13	—	—	3	—	—	—	4	2	1	1	—	2
Tuberculosis Non-Pulmonary	3	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	55	2	2	—	—	3	1	8	5	22	3	8	1
Totals	733	216	285	71	35	27	10	15	9	24	10	19	12

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease	Total Notified	South Ward	East Ward	West Ward	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	6	6	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	3	—	2	1	—	—
Measles	561	98	133	330	2 (1g & 1i)	—
Malaria	1	—	1	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	36	5	13	18	5 (c)	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	1	1 (i)	1
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	54	14	21	19	33 (g)	—
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	13	6	2	5	11 (3c, 2d, 2f, 1e, 1a, 2b)	5
Tuberculosis, Non-Pulmonary	3	—	2	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	55	12	19	24	4 (1g, 2i & 1h)	—
Totals	733	141	193	399	56	11

- (a) Kings Mill Hospital, Sutton-in-Ashfield
 (b) Crookhill Hall Sanatorium, Conisborough
 (c) Worksop Kilton Hospital
 (d) Newstead Sanatorium, Fishpool
 (e) Barnby Road Hospital, Newark
 (f) Ransom Sanatorium, Rainworth
 (g) North Carlton Isolation Hospital
 (h) Swallownest Isolation Hospital, Sheffield
 (i) Lodge Moor Hospital, Sheffield

